

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/989,693

Applicant(s)

LABANA, PARAMJIT S.

Examiner

Art Unit

Emerson C Puente

2113

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 28 December 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-38.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 December 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Bryce P. Boon*  
Bryce P. Boon  
Primary Examiner  
AU 2114

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Examiner's Statement of Reason for Allowance***

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 1-38 are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner found neither prior art cited in its entirety, nor based on the prior art, found any motivation to combine any of the said prior arts.

The reason for allowance for claim 1 is a Failure Path connected to a Normal Path of an adjacent Working Processing Module, the Failure Path operable to provide a second signal output over the Normal Path of the adjacent Working Processing Module in response to a failure in the adjacent Working Processing Module in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The reason for allowance for claim 27 is a first Failure Path connecting the first slot to the second Normal Path of the second slot in order to provide a signal output for the second Normal Path upon a failure associated with the second slot in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The reason for allowance for claim 31 is an  $i$ th Failure Path that is connected to an  $(i+1)$ th Normal Path of an  $(i+1)$ th slot that is logically adjacent to the  $i$ th slot in order to provide a signal output for the  $(i+1)$ th slot upon a failure associated with the  $(i+1)$ th slot in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The reason for allowance for claim 35 is a Failure Path connected between the first Working processing Module and a Normal Path of the second Working Processing Module, the Failure Path of the first Working processing Module operable to provide a signal output for the Normal Path of the second Working Processing Module upon a failure associated with the second Working processing Module in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The reason for allowance for claim 37 is wherein the Protection Processing Module becomes capable of providing a signal output to the slot associated with the failed Processing Module over the Protection Bus Segments in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

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The reason for allowance for claim 38 is a Failure Path that can be connected between the Normal Path of the first Working Processing Module and a Processing Module that is logically adjacent to the first Working Processing Module, wherein upon failure of the first Working Processing Module, a connection is formed from the Protection Processing Module to the Failure Path connected to the Processing Module that is logically adjacent to the first Working Processing Module in order to provide a signal output on the Normal Path of the first Working Processing Module in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The remaining claims, not specifically mentioned, are allowed because they are dependent upon one of the claim mentioned above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Emerson C Puente whose telephone number is (571) 272-3652. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert W Beausoliel can be reached on (571) 272-3645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

***Emerson Puente***

***3/4/05***